



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
(Case No. 97,022-G1)

#b/A Ad
1-31-02
PATENT

In the Application of:

R. Terry Dunlay, et al.

: Examiner:

Serial Number.: 09/721,168

: Art Unit: 1641

Filed: November 22, 2000

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For: A System for Cell-Based Screening

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner For Patents,
Box Response
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir,

Please enter the following preliminary amendment in the above-referenced case:

Please cancel claims 1-12

Please add the following new claims:

13. (NEW) An automated method for analyzing cells comprising:

a) providing an array of locations which contain multiple cells, wherein the cells contain one or more fluorescent reporter molecules;

b) automatically imaging multiple cells in each of the locations containing cells to obtain fluorescent signals from the one or more fluorescent reporter molecules on or in individual cells;

c) automatically measuring one or more features of the fluorescent signals on or in the individual cells, wherein the one or more features are selected from the group consisting of intensity, location, number of fluorescent domains, excitation or emission spectra, and fluorescence resonance energy transfer; and

d) automatically calculating changes in the one or more features of the fluorescent signals on or in individual cells, wherein the changes indicate a change in

A1